

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims as follows.

1. (original) Device for positioning a patient (P) having to undergo a lumbar puncture in particular, which has a plane of sagittal symmetry (S) and comprises a front leaning surface (11) for the patient's abdomen and thorax, bordered on either side by side faces (12) characterized in that it is made in the form of a rigid or semi-rigid cushion (1) comprising:

- a placing surface (3), provided with an anterior edge (4), resting on the patient's thighs,
- a front leaning surface (11) rising above the placing surface (3) from the anterior edge (4) and which, in the plane of sagittal symmetry (S), has a convex profile to position the patient's spine in kyphosis, this front leaning surface (11) opposite the anterior edge leading into a housing (14) for the support and lateral centring of the patient's head centred along the plane of sagittal symmetry,
- and two side faces (12) into which a clasping surface (26) opens orientated in opposite direction to the front leaning surface (11), to allow at least part of the upper limbs to clasp the cushion against the patient's abdomen and thorax.

2. (original) Device as in claim 1 characterized in that, at the anterior edge (4), it comprises a cut-out passage (31) for the abdomen leaving abutments (32) subsisting on either side to wedge the cushion against the patient's pelvis.

3. (original) Device as in claim 1, characterized in that the placing surface (3) is provided with two channels (7) to receive at least part of the patient's thighs.

4. (original) Device as in claim 3, characterized in that the channels (7) extend opposite the anterior edge (4) over a limited distance and projecting from a planar surface (9) which extends as far as the anterior edge (4).

5. (original) Device as in claim 1, characterized in that the front leaning surface (11) is provided with two hollowed parts (24) centred either side of the plane of sagittal symmetry (S) extending crosswise as far as the side faces (12).

6. (original) Device as in claim 1, characterized in that the clasping surface (26) is formed partly by the inner surface of the transverse cavity (27) leading into the two side faces (12).

7. (original) Device as in claim 6, characterized in that it comprises an access passage (29) opening into the transverse cavity (27) and starting at the posterior face (22) of the cushion extending between the placing surface (3) and the front leaning surface (11).

8. (original) Device as in claim 1, characterized in that the housing (14) opens opposite the front leaning face (11) in a clearing (21).

9. (currently amended) Device as in ~~any of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, characterized in that the cushion (1) is made in polyethylene foam for example.

10. (currently amended) Device as in ~~any of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1, characterized in that the cushion (1) is provided with a protective cover allowing its decontamination.